

Appl. No. 10/694,341
Amdt. dated June 10, 2005
Reply to Office Action of March 22, 2005

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action mailed March 22, 2005. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following comments. Claims 1-18 are pending in the application. Claims 1-13 are allowed, claim 14 is rejected, and claims 15-18 are objected to. Claims 14, 16 and 18 have been amended, and claim 15 has been cancelled with this Amendment. No new matter has been added, as the originally filed specification clearly supports the claim amendments made herein.

Claims 15-18 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected claim. Claim 14 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 15 and claim 15 has been cancelled. Claims 16 and 18 have had their dependencies amended, thereby rendering the objection moot. The amendment to claim 14 further renders the rejection of the claim based on Normann et al. moot.

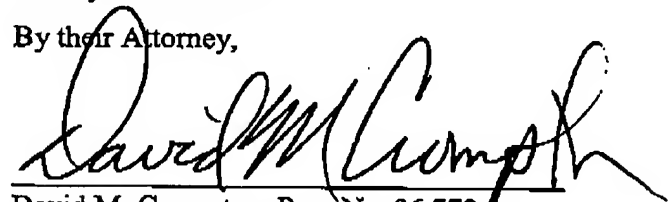
Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

Michiya Katou et al.

By their Attorney,

Date: 6/10/05



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